



Claims

We claim,

1) (Twice revised) An emergency escape system comprising:

- (a) a passenger harness,
- (b) a cable detachably attached to the harness,
- (c) a reel connected to the cable for storage of the cable,
- (d) a shaft attached to the reel permitting rotation of the reel as the cable is unrolled from the reel,
- (e) a reduction gear assembly fixed to the shaft to multiply the reel rotation rate,
- (f) a centrifugal brake assembly attached to the reduction gear assembly, said centrifugal brake assembly comprising:

- (1) a circular casing,
- (2) a circular central plate with a plurality of tabs,
- (3) a plurality of brake shoes fitted over the plurality of tabs, and
- (4) a shaft connecting the central disk and piercing the casing at the center of the circular cross section of the casing to connect to an external source of rotary motion,
- (g) a housing enclosing the brake assembly,
- (h) a mounting means fixing the housing to a point of support.

2) (Original) The emergency escape system of claim 1 wherein the mounting means is configured to attach to a prepared mounting point within a building or dwelling structure.

3) (Original) The emergency escape system of claim 1 wherein the mounting means is configured to attach to the top of a ladder positioned near an egress port of a building or dwelling structure.

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4) (Original) The emergency escape system of claim 1 wherein the cable includes flexible attachment points spaced to accommodate multiple descents without rewinding the cable on the reel.

5) (Original) The emergency escape system of claim 1 wherein the shaft is detachably attached to the reel.

6) (Twice revised) The emergency escape system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of tabs and brake shoes consists of two tabs and two brake shoes.

7) (Deleted)

8) (Deleted)

9) (Twice revised) The emergency escape system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of tabs and brake shoes consists of two tabs and two brake shoes.

10 (Deleted)

11) (New) An emergency escape system comprising:

(a) a passenger harness,

(b) a cable connecting to a mounting means,

(c) a reel connected to the cable for storage of the cable,

(d) a shaft fixed to the reel permitting rotation of the reel as the cable is unrolled from the reel,

(e) a reduction gear assembly fixed to the shaft to multiply the reel rotation rate,

(f) a centrifugal brake assembly attached to the reduction gear assembly, said centrifugal brake assembly comprising:

(1) a circular casing,

(2) a circular central plate with a plurality of tabs,

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(3) a plurality of brake shoes fitted over the plurality of tabs, and

(4) a shaft connecting the central disk and piercing the casing at the center of the circular cross section of the casing to connect to a external source of rotary motion,

(g) a housing enclosing the brake assembly,

(h) the housing fixed to the passenger harness.

12) (Twice revised) The emergency escape system of claim 11 wherein the plurality of tabs and brake shoes consists of two tabs and two brake shoes.

13) (New) The emergency escape system of claim 11 wherein the mounting means is configured to attach to a prepared mounting point within a building or dwelling structure.

14) (New) The emergency escape system of claim 11 wherein the mounting means is configured to attach to the top of a ladder positioned near an egress port of a building or dwelling structure.